

Direct Line Emmy McCarthy, SHS Student Council President 2020-2021

Most adults realize we had a different kind of school year, even though we were "on campus" most of the time and in "remote learning" for only a few weeks. As the Student Council President, a graduating senior, and someone who has spent my entire life in Sigonella, I hope to provide a bit of insight into exactly how things were different this year. Virtually no part of school was as it had been.

We could tell things were different on the very first day when we were handed maps of the school labeled with "up" and "down" stairwells and one-way hallways. The new rules stated we needed to sanitize our desks and computers upon entering and exiting every class, masks were required to be worn at all times except for while eating lunch, water fountains were closed, textbooks and library books had to stay in quarantine between uses, and students had to sit socially distanced in class, just to name a few changes.

As teens and young adults, the socialization process that happens with friends and classmates in and out of the classroom is a crucial part of our lives, and one of our favorite times to socialize is during lunch. The rules at lunch time varied throughout the year, as the Food Court and Midtown seating areas went through phases of being opened and closed. Outside the Food Court, where a large portion of high school students ate lunch, only two students were allowed to sit per table, which led to the awkward moments when groups with uneven numbers meant someone had to sit by themselves. While some of these rules lasted briefly, other regulations lasted for the entire year.

In addition to hanging out at lunch, sports have always been an important part of social and student life at Sigonella. COVID-19 restrictions meant the cancellation of the most popular team sports, and, consequently, an overall decline in sport participation. For example, in 2019, 45% of high school students participated in a fall sport, while only 26% participated this past fall. There was a similar impact on winter sports, as basketball, cheerleading and wrestling were not offered. With powerlifting as the lone winter sport offered, only 11% of high school students were winter athletes, compared to last year's 42%.

Although spring sports had a better turnout because of eased restrictions, these teams dealt with mandatory masks, no travel, and no in-person competition against an opposing squad. As a Sigonella athlete myself, I know firsthand that each home game is memorable, and sports trips are always a unique and exciting experience, whether to Rome or Rota.

The inability to host home sporting events against



visiting teams also impacted Student Council activities. With no sports competition happening and a ban on gatherings such as dances, it was nearly impossible to plan whole-school events. Our Student Council officers still tried to create as many events as possible, including virtual Tik Tok competitions while the school was shut down in November. In March, we hosted three separate rounds of an ESports tournament that pitted students from each grade level against each other in a series of Nintendo games. Each match was broadcast live on Youtube so the entire school could watch from individual classrooms. The principals even took part in the fun, facing each other in the final match.

At the end of most school years, we often read a "Year in Review" that highlights the championships won by Sigonella sports teams and how individual students excelled in academic competitions. Perhaps the focus this year should be on how we collectively overcame what has been one of the biggest opponents of our lifetimes. The coronavirus pandemic was a tougher foe than any other team, competitor or exam.

This was certainly not the school year we had hoped for, but maybe the past year will make us appreciate the normal things in life and at school that we had always taken for granted.

NEXCOM'S NEXTgen Scholars Program Support Students

The Navy Exchange Service Command's (NEXCOM) NEXTgen Scholars Program offers qualified students the opportunity to win \$2,500, \$1,500, \$1,000 or \$500 each quarter for earning good grades in school. The next drawing is in June 2021.

To enter the drawing, students must be full-time with a "B" grade point average equivalent or better, as determined by their school system. Homeschooled students can also qualify with acknowledgement that the student has a "B" average or equivalent record of accomplishment.

Students must bring their current report card or other performance document to any NEX, fill out an entry card and have any documentation validated by an NEX associate. Once entered, the students will be given a coupon good for \$10 off a one-time NEX purchase of \$20 or more.

Eligible students include

dependent children of active duty members, reservists and military retirees as well as U.S. civilian Department of Defense employees stationed outside the continental United States and U.S. civilian employees of firms under contract to the Department of Defense outside the continental United States. Students must be enrolled in 1st through 12th grade. Dependent children without an individual Dependent Identification Card must be accompanied by their sponsor to submit their entry. Each student may enter only once each grading period and must re-enter with each qualifying report card.

Thanks to its vendor partners, NEXCOM has awarded a total of \$804,500 in savings bonds and monetary awards to students since the program's inception in 1997.

For more information on the NEXTgen Scholars Program visit myNavyExchange.com/NEXTgen.











THE SIGNATURE

U.S. NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA

> Commanding Officer Capt. Kevin Pickard

Executive Officer Cmdr. Ronald Cappellini

Command Master Chief CMDCM Anna Wood

EDITORIAL

Public Affairs Officer Lt. Karl Schonberg karl.schonberg@eu.navy.mil

Assistant Public Affairs Officer Megan Mills megan.mills@eu.navy.mil

Public Affairs Leading Petty Officer MC1 Kegan Kay kegan.kay@eu.navy.mil

Community Relations Officer
Dott. Alberto Lunetta
alberto.lunetta.it@eu.navy.mil

PAO Staff Writers \ Photographers

MC2 Joshua Coté joshua.m.cote@eu.navy.mil

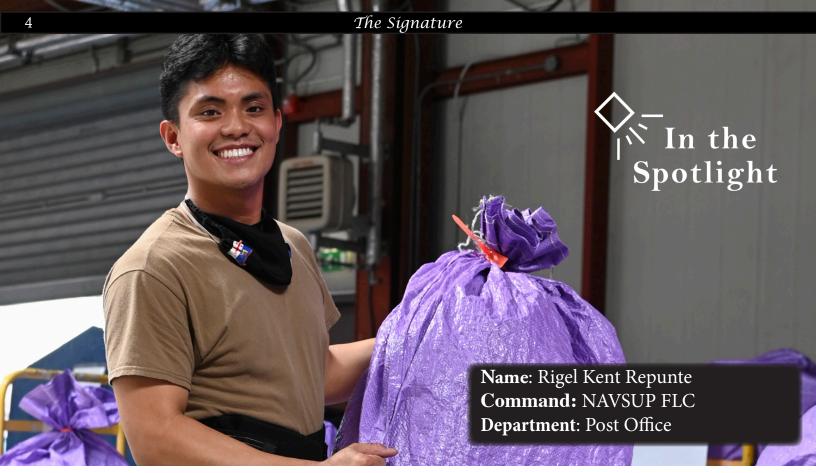
MCSN Triniti Lersch triniti.lersch@eu.navy.mil

CONTACT US

Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily thesig@eu.navy.mil
DSN 624-5440; 095-86-5440
PSC 812 Box 7, FPO, AE 09627-0001

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Editorial submissions are welcomed from all Naval Air Station Sigonella departments, divisions and tenant commands. Editorial submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs Office via thesig@eu.navy.mil. All articles submitted by non-staff members will be considered contributing writers.



By MCSN Triniti Lersch, NAS Sigonella Public Affairs

Logistics Specialist (LS) Seaman Rigel Kent Repunte, Houston, Texas native, didn't just join the Navy because of a ferry ride, but it did play an important role in his decision.

"The biggest moment was when I took a ferry to Canada from Washington State," said Repunte. "I thought to myself, 'This is cool!' and I could see myself on a ship."

On January 9th of 2020, Repunte signed on as an LS and currently works as a postal clerk at Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Sigonella. He finds the position rewarding, but also physically and mentally demanding.

"Information is constantly changing," said Repunte. "You have to always be on your toes and check your e-mails. There is a lot of coordination with load planners, Air Cargo, or Defense Logistics Agency."

Repunte also enjoys the team aspect of working in the Fleet Mail Center.

"We have a good team here," said Repunte "Couldn't ask for anyone better to work with. These people grind 24/7 because this job will wear you out."

"Team effort is very crucial in what we do at Fleet Mail Center, Sigonella," said Leading Chief Petty Officer Oluwadamilare Ogunlade. "LSSN Repunte has become part of that team. His customer service skills and postal knowledge have been invaluable whenever we need him to get a job done."

Repunte enjoys providing customer service, as well as interacting with those who get their mail from him.

"You have officers and enlisted, whether is senior enlisted

or junior coming in to pick up mail," said Repunte. "It's rewarding to see around base the people who you gave mail to, and they're happy because they got the Amazon packages that you were just organizing in a mountain of mail a couple hours earlier."

In addition to his time in the post office, Repunte has a busy schedule.

"He has also contributed numerous hours providing meals to Sailors through USO volunteer program," said Ogunlade. "He represents our Navy out in the community through different volunteer program out reach."

Repunte is also the event coordinator for the Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) and a college student. He has just completed his associates degree in general studies and is working towards his bachelors. Ideally, Repunte would like to stay in and do the enlisted to officer Judge Advocate Generals Corp program.

One of Repunte's favorite things about Sicily is the Catholic culture and the family-centered values he remembers from his own Catholic upbringing. Another one is the diversity.

"You have all kinds of cultures," said Repunte. "You have a history of French, Spanish, Italian, Greek, Arab, and the Mesopotamian. You can see it in the architecture too, in the different spots you go to. There's so much history here."

In addition to spending time in Marzamemi, his favorite spot in Sicily, Repunte is looking forward to traveling more.

"I love to hang out with friends, practice music, read, and travel," said Repunte. "Now that the airways are opened up, we've been trying to plan trips. I would really like to go to the Ferrari factory as well."

School Employee Saves Student

and Receives Lifesaving Award from American Red Cross

By MC2 Josh Coté, NAS Sigonella Public Affairs

What started as a normal day at Sigonella Elementary School (SES) quickly took a terrifying turn.

As students ate their lunch in the SES cafeteria, one child began to choke. Luckily, Marcila Chatman, a nearby employee at the school, sprang into action and saved the day.

Chatman was awarded the American Red Cross (ARC) Lifesaving Award for her bravery and action. This is one of the highest honors given by the ARC to an individual or team of individuals who saves or sustains a life by using skills and knowledge learned in an American Red Cross Training Services course.

The certificate bears the signature of the President and CEO of the ARC, as well as the signature of the chairman of the ARC.

Karen Jorgenson, the American Red Cross Regional Program Manager, and Courtney Schonffeldt, SES principal presented the award to Chatman June 11.

In addition to being the principal of the school, Schonffeldt also just happens to be the mother of the young girl who was saved that day.

Life-threatening accidents can happen to anyone, which is why it is important to have well-trained staff

"I was in the middle of lunch room duty," said Chatman. "While I was there watching, I noticed one of the kids was struggling and grabbing at her neck. At that point, she was starting to turn a little red and trying to cough. I ran over there knowing what was



happening, especially after the color change. At that point I started doing back thrusts, but nothing was coming out, and she stopped coughing for a couple of seconds. So that's when I immediately started doing the abdominal thrusts."

Witnessing an event like this take place can be scary, but the main thing to do is to keep calm and remember your training.

"I never knew I would be put in a situation like this," said Chatman. "I was just trying to calmly get everything together, and I remembered my training: as long as I see [whatever is stuck in her throat] come out and I get her coughing, then I know there is some air coming in."

Because of Chatman's quick thinking, training, and presence of mind, the obstruction was dislodged and the student began to breathe again.

"I am just glad that she safe; that is my main concern," said Chatman. "I don't feel like a hero or anything. I am just glad that I was trained to make sure that in that situation I knew what to do."

The Lifesaving Award was first given in 1911. Since then, thousands of certificates have been awarded to individuals who saved or have sustained someone's life as a direct result of American Red Cross Training Services instruction.

If you or someone you know would like to take an American Red Cross Life saving class, they have started back up at the ARC here on base. You can find more information on their Facebook page or by calling 624-4900.



Pride, Progress and Military Service

Sailors Reflect on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Pride Month

By Megan Mills, NAS Sigonella Public Affairs

Although the U.S. Navy now embraces June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month with the theme "Pride in All Who Serve," it was only 10 years ago that Don't Ask, Don't Tell (DADT) was the U.S. military's official policy.

Since the repeal of DADT in September of 2011, LGBTQ+ Sailors have been able to simultaneously serve their country and fully express their identity.

Yeoman 1st Class David Olvera of U.S. Naval Hospital Sigonella joined the Navy in 2008, three years before the change in policy. He was facing homelessness after telling his parents about his sexual orientation, and turned to the Navy despite what it would mean for him.

"It was one of the hardest decisions I ever had to make," he said, "but I am grateful for all of the opportunities and experiences I have had."

Retail Service Specialist 2nd Class Jonathan J. Goulsby of Defense Courier Service Sigonella spent four years in the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) program in high school, but found the news coverage of DADT at the time to be disheartening.

"I was extremely interested in the military, but DADT really scared me," he said.

For many like Goulsby and Olvera, the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell was an important milestone, but it didn't erase all concerns.

"I was relieved yet cautious about the repeal because personally I didn't believe that just because it got repealed it would automatically change the entire military's opinion on the LGBT community," said Goulsby. "We were allowed to serve out and openly, but that did not mean everyone would agree with our lifestyle."

Olvera also had mixed feelings. "For the first time, I could confidently and proudly serve alongside my fellow service members without the fear of reprisal because of my sexual orientation," he said. "Yet, it felt bittersweet to know the many others service members discriminated against under the policy."

In the 1950s, LGBTQ+ service members were routinely discharged from service. In 1981, Department of Defense Directive 1332.14 initiated a mandatory discharge for any attempt to "engage in a homosexual act." DADT, which required LGBTQ+ service members to keep their sexuality to themselves or be discharged from service, became policy in 1993 under President Bill Clinton, who issued the first Gay and Lesbian Pride Month Proclamation in 2000.

Pride Month is held in June to commemorate the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. Police raided a gay bar on June 28, and the patrons resisted. Over the next several days, thousands of protesters joined the uprising that ensued. The first "Pride March" was held one year later in 1970, and celebrations have expanded since.

Progress has also continued, with same-sex marriage becoming legal throughout the United States in 2015 and increased rights for transgender service members being signed into law in the following years.

Earlier this month, President Joe Biden declared June 2021 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Pride Month

Both Goulsby and Olvera have had overall positive experiences in their time serving as LGBTQ+ Sailors.

"Since I've been in the military, the Navy has continued to make strides towards inclusiveness and combating discrimination among the ranks," said Olvera. "Witnessing and experiencing these changes in policies, leadership, and support services have been instrumental in feeling supported throughout my career. I also would not be where I am today without the support and friendship I have received from amazing shipmates I've had the opportunity to serve alongside over the years."

Goulsby has found support from both his command and from the NASSIG Second Class Petty Officer's Association. "I am truly fortunate to be embraced with nothing but open arms throughout my career thus far," he added.

Reflecting on the importance of Pride Month 2021, both Sailors are grateful for the pioneers who came before them.

"There are countless activists, allies, and pioneers that have helped pave the way for the LGBTQ community," said Olvera. "I think it is instrumental in honoring and continuously educating our youth and ourselves about the sacrifices and remarkable strides of those who have come before in support of gay rights."

Goulsby agrees. "Pride is a celebration of queer life and culture, but it is also to commemorate and give thanks to all the greats like Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, Stormé DeLarverie, and Miss Major Griffin-Gracy (to name a few)," he said. "They sacrificed their safety and put their lives on the line to fight for the rights of queer people like me because they knew if they didn't, then things would never change."

MILITARY LGBT HISTORY TIMELINE

16 JAN 1981:

Department of Defense Directive 1332.14 establishes a policy of mandatory discharge for service members who attempt to engage in homosexual act.

2 JUNE 2000:

President Clinton issues Proclamation No. 7316 for the first Gay and Lesbian Pride Month.

2 MAR 2010:

memorandum from Secretary of Defense Robert Gates directs comprehensive review implementing a repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

22 DEC 2010:

The "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) Repeal Act becomes law. The Chief of Naval Operations during this time, Admiral Gary Roughhead, lead the Navy's preparations for the change in policy.

JUNE 2012:

The Department of Defense begins observing LGBT Pride Month.

28 APR 2014:

An update to the Department of Defense Human Goals Charter is released with language referencing sexual orientation. Specifically, the charter notes the aim "to make the military service in the Department of Defense a model of equal opportunity for all regardless of race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, or national origin.'

JUNE 2015:

Protections against discrimination because of sexual orientation are incorporated into the Department of Defense equal opportunity program.

30 JUNE 2016:

Service members may not be involuntarily separated, discharged, or denied reenlistment or continuation of service solely on the basis of being transgender individuals.

13 MAR 2019:

The Defense Department released a new policy regarding service by individuals with gender dysphoria.

25 JAN 2021:

Timeline from: https://www.history.navy.mil/

Five days after 20 January action, President Biden issues Executive Order 14004, "Enabling All Qualified Americans to Serve Their Country in Uniform.'

31 JUNE 1951:

Uniform Code of Military Justice supersedes service-specific disciplinary policies. Article 125 often applied in discharge proceedings of gay service members.

19 JULY 1993:

President Clinton announces the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy, which is later codified in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year

1JUNE 2009:

President Obama issues Proclamation No. 8387 for Lesbian, Cay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month.

30NOV2010:

Key working group finding on repeal implementation are released.

SEP 2011:

The DADT Repeal Act is fully implemented, allowing LGBT service members to serve openly.

11 FEB 2013:

A memorandum from Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta directs extension of twenty benefits to same-sex domestic partners and children of same-sex domestic parters.

27 MAR 2015:

The family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) extended coverage to legally married samesex couples.

26 JUNE 2015:

In Obergefell v. Hodges, The U.S. Supreme Court rules that same-sex couples have the fundamental right to marry.

1 OCT 2016:

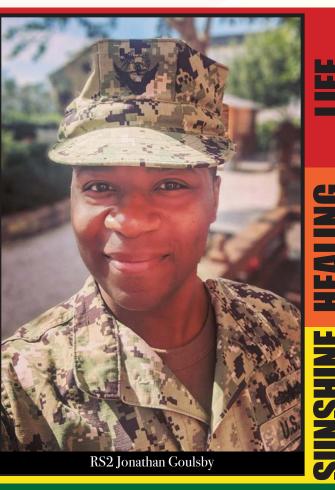
The Department of Defense issues DOD Instruction 1300.28: In-Service Transition for Transgender Service Members.

20 JAN 2021:

President Biden issues Executive Order 13988, Preventing and Combatting Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation.

30 APR 2021:

The Department of Defense amends DOD Instruction 6130.03, Volume 1: Medical Standards of Appointment, Enlistment, or Induction to align with official policy.







YN1 David Olvera

Italian News-

The Cave of San Teodoro, a Treasure of Sicilian Prehistory

By Dr. Alberto Lunetta, NAS Sigonella Public Affairs

At the end of a community relations event last week in the seaside town of Sant'Agata di Miltello, volunteers from Sigonella were invited to the neighboring town of Acquedolci to visit a cave. When we arrived, we realized that we were not touring a regular grotto. We were about to visit one of the most important archeological sites of Europe: the Grotta di San Teodoro.

The first thing we noticed was the immense size of the cave! It is about 200 feet long, 65 feet wide and towers up to 65 feet high. It has a relatively small entrance and a total surface of more than 11,000 square feet. The next thing we noticed was a plethora of fossilized bones all around the cave, which makes it a great open-air museum.

Thanks to the cave's unique characteristics, it has preserved invaluable evidence of now-extinct animals and prehistoric human remains.

"Three-hundred thousand years ago, this area was covered by the sea, which later receded. Today, the cave is 500 feet above the sea level," said our guide Ciro Artale, a local history buff who is the president of the local Pro Loco tourist office. He explained that the cave was formed approximately eight to ten million years ago following a "karst phenomenon" consisting of the dissolution of soluble bedrocks.

The receding sea formed small lakes, first in salt and later fresh water. These lakes played an important role in the preservation of animals' bodies, which fossilized as they were covered by sediments after dying and remained at the bottom of the lake.

Other animals' fossils found in the cave were taken inside the grotto by predators such as hyenas, wolves, birds of prey, and humans.

"The first paleontologist to explore the site was a Sicilian nobleman named Barone Francesco Anca,"



The majestic Cave of San Teodoro in the town of Acquedolci in North-Eastern Sicily, preserves the precious remains of three phases of the Sicilian prehistory (Upper Pleistocene 200,000-11,000 B.C.). The cave houses thousands of fossils of animals as well as human remains. (Photo by Ciro Artale)

said Artale. "He carried out the first excavation test in 1859, discovering animal remains including hippopotamus, hyena, deer, wild boar, bear, and donkey, dating back to the Upper Paleolithic," said Artale.

The cave also included evidence of one animal that was quite a surprise for archaeologists.

"The fossils of a dwarf elephant found in this cave, dating back to 28,000 years ago, rocked the archaeological world. Before this discovery, paleontologists used to believe that elephants were extinct in Europe 100,000 ago," explained Artale.

According to experts, these animals arrived in the cave during the last Pleistocene Era, the great period of glaciation, and got stuck on the island. After the migration from the Italian peninsula, some animals did not have any natural predators so they did not need to be as big and strong. As a result, they evolved to become smaller. Imagine 3-foot tall elephants!

Unfortunately, these animals went extinct but their

Distinguished Guests Visit NASSIG

return ver the past two weeks, Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella has hosted several special guests.

Rear Adm. Scott Gray, commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, visited NAS Sigonella to strengthen partnerships with local Italian officials and military counterparts. During his visit, Gray met with local Italian officials, presented coins and awards to NAS Sigonella Sailors and presented Ristorante Bella Etna galley their fifth consecutive NEY award.

British Royal Navy aircraft carrier, HMS Queen Elizabeth (R08), conducted her first port call since the start of their deployment, allowing the British Sailors, Marines and U.S. Marines onboard the ship to make use of the NAS Sigonella facilities such as the Navy Exchange during their stay. HMS Queen Elizabeth leads the United Kingdom Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 21, consisting of seven ships, a submarine, and flanked by a Dutch frigate and a U.S. destroyer. During this deployment, CSG 21 will visit 40 countries and participate in multinational exercises, operations, visits and engagements, enhancing defense relationships and improving coordination and interoperability between global allies and military partners.

NAS Sigonella enabled Commander, U.S. Central Command, Gen. Kenneth F. McKenzie, Jr.'s visit to the HMS Queen Elizabeth. His short visit highlights our strategic role as the "Hub of the Med," which allows us to logistically support critical missions and operations across the U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa/U.S. Sixth Fleet area of responsibility and beyond.



















HITTING THE BEACH! A Quick Guide to Beaches Near Sigonella

By NAS Sigonella Public Affairs

Sicily is a popular summer vacation destination for Europe and beyond because of the fabulous beaches around the island. Whether you prefer your beaches sandy or rocky, full-service or hidden in nature, chances are there's a spiaggia for you.

A quick Google search will show you pages and pages of "Best Beaches in Sicily" roundups, and here's The

Signature's first entry into that category!

In this installment, we'll highlight some of the Sigonella community's favorite spots to swim, relax, and splash around, all easy to visit in a day trip from base.

While "spiaggia" is the word for beach in Italian, "lido" in Italy generally refers to a private beach that you must pay to enter. Most lidos have chairs, umbrellas, and other equipment you can rent for the day, as well as a bar or café that has food for purchase. Most beach areas have both public access portions as well as multiple lidos along the coast, so you can choose what best suits your needs.

Catania

The closest beaches to Sigonella are the ones right next to the city of Catania. Several lidos line Viale Kennedy, including a dog friendly beach, but there is also a public access area called "La Playa" as well. The water is sometimes rough on these sandy beaches, but the views of Mt. Etna and the planes landing from the nearby airport make for a unique experience!



Taormina

Just off the coast below Taormina, a city famous for its beauty, elegance, and upscale shopping and restaurants, is Isola Bella, a tiny island that has been turned into a nature preserve. A few full-service lidos line the rocky beach in addition to a small public area, and when the tide is right you can walk a thin strip of beach to visit Isola Bella itself. Just south of Taormina is the town of Giardini Naxos, which has stretches of sandy and pebbly beach filled with both full-service lidos and public access.



Cassibile

This area just south of Siracusa has a few different beaches that are popular in the community. Fontane Bianche is a full-service lido with chairs, umbrellas, and food available for purchase. Nearby, the Oasi Gelsomineto is a small, lovely, secluded nature preserve that has a paid parking lot separated from the beach only by a row of trees. Make sure to bring all your own supplies, though, because there is nothing to rent. Both of these boast clear, shallow water that is great for younger kids.



"Italian News" cont'd from Page 8

memory is preserved throughout the elephant motifs found across Catania. On the contrary, rodents, became bigger and survived.

But what about humans?

Following several excavations conducted at the end of the 19th century, two scholars found human remains in 1937. Excavations stopped during War World II, when the cave sheltered around 600 people who fled the battles between the Axis and the Allied troops during Operation Husky.

Excavations resumed forty years later, and paleontologists learned that the Cave of San Teodoro had been inhabited by humans between 12,000 and 8,000 BCE during the last period of the Italian Upper

Paleolithic, called the "Final Epigravettian."

The archeological importance of the cave is mainly due to the discovery of the unique Sicilian Paleolithic burials, which are of utmost importance for the understanding of the life of ancient inhabitants of Sicily.

Paleontologists unearthed five skulls and two full skeletons belonging to seven individuals who were not related to each other. The burials' ritual consisted of placing the body in a shallow grave in a supine position or on their left side surrounded by animal bones, pebbles and necklaces made with deer teeth. Then, the

body and its ornaments were covered with a light layer of earth and ocher.

The most important discovery was the fossilized human remains of what was initially believed to be a 30 year old woman, who stood about 5 feet 4 inches tall. However, new studies concluded that the skeleton actually belonged to a man most likely from a high social class. His teeth were in good condition, he had no problems related to nutrition, and his joints were not worn down, indicating that he probably had never worked.

This skeleton is kept at the Museum of Paleontology and Geology Gaetano Giorgio Gemmellaro in Palermo, while the other human remains are preserved in museums between Rome and Florence.

Many fossils from the cave are preserved in other museums across the islands, but as you visit the small "antiquarium," you will see several fossilized bones (including hippopotamus mandibles with large canines) as well as small lithic tools on display.

The cave is open to the public and is about two and a half hours from NAS II by car. After arriving in Messina, exit Sant'Agata di Militello on A20 highway (Messina-Palermo), follow directions towards Acquedolci and then to the cave.

Marzamemi

Near Italy's southernmost point is the adorable seaside village of Marzamemi. Boasting Michelin star restaurants with artisanal fish delicacies and a picturesque piazza, this town is also home to turquoise beaches on the east and north shores. For sunbathing and swimming on a sandy beach, check out Porto Palo di Capo Passero. A quick walk around the point will lead to rocky tide pools, fun for exploring sea life and wading with the waves!



Courtesy of Ashley Martin

San Lorenzo

A relatively short drive from the quintessentially baroque town of Noto are the beautiful beaches of San Lorenzo. If bright sand and blue water is on your bucket list, this is a not to miss destination. Though there is a small public beach, the local lidos do present the beaches in a way that competes with a beach-scene you would see in Mexico or the Caribbean.

On this side of the island, beaches from Catania to the south are generally sandy, but as you go north into Aci Trezza and beyond, the beaches become rockier.





No Navy endorsement of sponsor is implied.



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FRIDAY JULY 2, 2021

